

# ONLINE LIBRARY OF LIBERTY

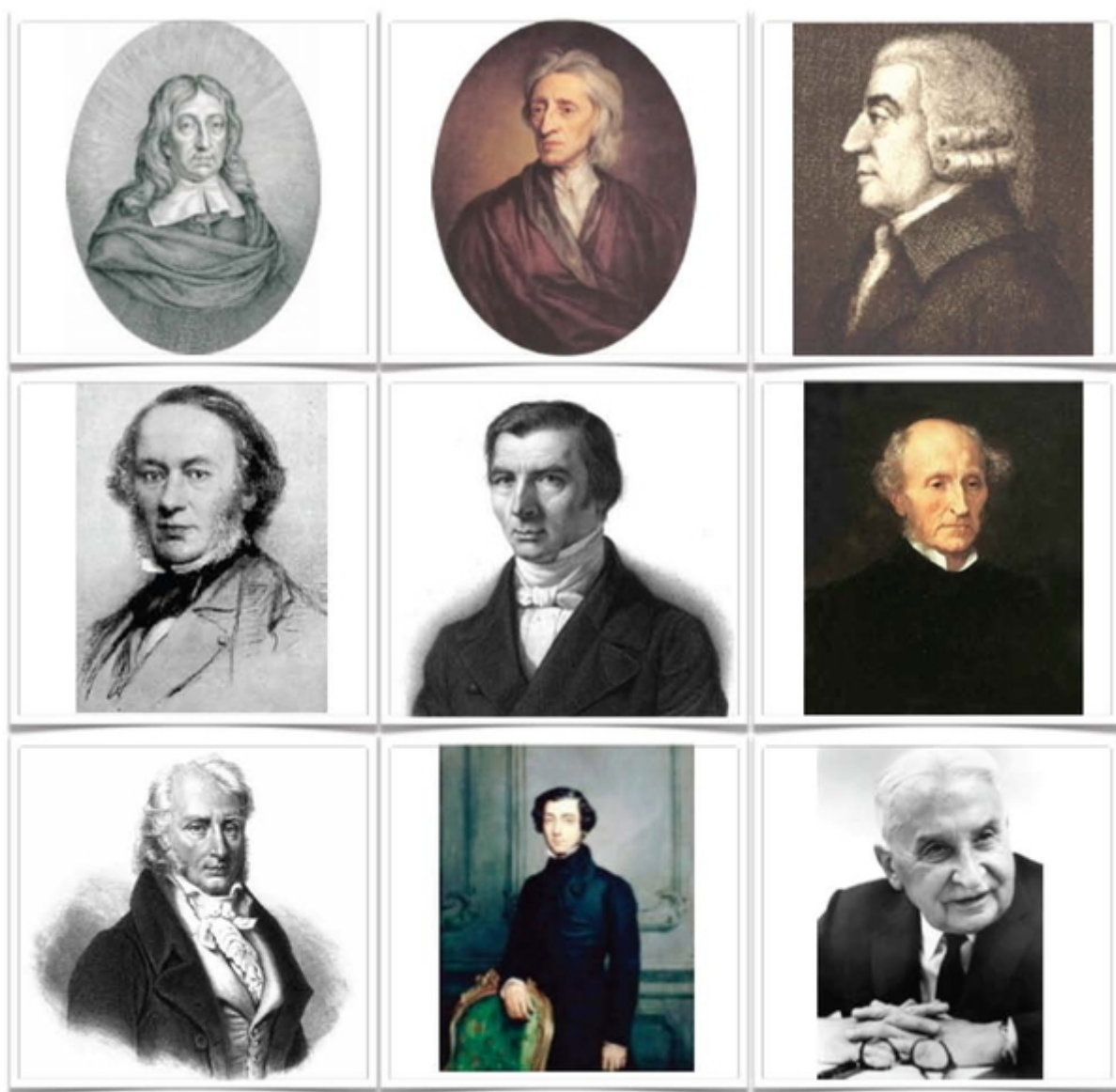
A PROJECT OF LIBERTY FUND, INC.

A COLLECTION OF SCHOLARLY WORKS ABOUT INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY AND FREE MARKETS.

## The OLL Reader

### *The OLL Reader: An Anthology of the Best of the Online Library of Liberty*

[Updated February 6, 2018: This anthology is a work in progress. There are currently 80 items in the main OLL Reader, plus another 173 items in the additional expanded sections.]



[From left to right: John Milton, John Locke, Adam Smith, Richard Cobden, Frédéric Bastiat, J.S. Mill, Benjamin Constant, Alexis de Tocqueville, Ludwig von Mises]

This Anthology is a selection of chapters and extracts taken from the most important and influential books in the OLL. They are available in a variety of eBook formats - ePub, text PDF, and Kindle - and we are working on creating a stand-alone HTML version as well (see the list [here](#)). We also provide a link back to the original book from which the extract was taken ("Source").

We have arranged the collection here into themes in order to illustrate the breadth and depth of the classical liberal and free market tradition. It should serve as a useful guide to those who would like to explore this tradition further. Each extract is preceded by a brief biography of the author and some explanation of why the text is important, and followed by links to other related material in the OLL.

From time to time we publish the entire collection as one file. The most recent edition is:

- *The Best of the OLL: A Reader on Individual, Economic, and Political Liberty* (Indianapolis: Liberty Fund, 2014). It contains 69 items [titles/2636](#)

There is additional material in the collection of over 500 Quotations about Liberty and Power one of which is featured on the home page every week. They are categorized thematically so the reader can more easily explore the contents in the OLL:

Colonies, Slavery & Abolition | Economics | Education | Food & Drink | Free Trade | Freedom of Speech | Law | Liberty | Literature & Music | Money & Banking | Natural Rights | Odds & Ends | Origin of Government | Parties & Elections | Philosophy | Politics & Liberty | Presidents, Kings, Tyrants, & Despots | Property Rights | Religion & Toleration | Revolution | Science | Socialism & Interventionism | Sport and Liberty | Taxation | The State | War & Peace | Women's Rights

The Reader is divided into the following sections:

- Part I: Scepticism about Power
- Part II: The Basic Principles
- Part III: Political Liberty
- Part IV: Economic Liberty
  - New section on "Free Trade"
- Part V: Individual Liberty
- Part VI: War and Peace
- Part VII: Key Legal and Political Documents
  - See also the collection of Key Documents of Liberty in which there are 100 documents stretching back to the Code of Hammurabi.
- Part VIII: The History of Liberty and Power
- Part IX: The Literature of Liberty
- Part X: The Critique of Socialism and Interventionism
- Part XI: The Ruling Class and the State
  - This section has been expanded. See "The Ruling Class and the State".
- Part XII: Visions of the Future

## PART I: SCEPTICISM ABOUT POWER↩

1. No. 31: Samuel anoints Saul the First King of Israel (c. 1,000 B.C.)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
2. No. 60: Thomas Gordon, "On the Nature of Power" (1721)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
3. No. 6: David Hume, "On Government" (1777)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
4. Best of Bastiat 2.1: Frédéric Bastiat, "The State" (1848)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
5. No. 22: Herbert Spencer, "The Right to Ignore the State" (1851)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
6. No. 5: John Stuart Mill, "Of the Limits to the Authority of Society over the Individual" (1859)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
7. No. 10: James M. Buchanan, "The Threat of Leviathan" (1975)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
8. No. 15: Anthony de Jasay, "Liberalism and Democracy" (1985)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source

Also see the collection of Quotations about Liberty and Power on the topics of: Presidents, Kings, Tyrants, & Despots | Parties & Elections | Taxation

## PART II: THE BASIC PRINCIPLES↩

1. No. 56: Hugo Grotius "The Preliminary Discourse Concerning the Certainty of Right" (1625)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
2. No. 1: John Locke, "Of Property" (1698)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
3. No. 9: Sir William Blackstone, "Of the Absolute Rights of Individuals" (1766)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
4. No. 13: Immanuel Kant, "The Principles of Political Right" (1791)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
5. No. 8: Jean-Baptiste Say, "Of the Right of Property" (1819)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
6. No. 21: Jeremy Bentham, "The Greatest Happiness of the Greatest Number" (1830)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
7. No. 58: Léon Faucher, "Property I" (1852)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
8. No. 48: John Stuart Mill, "Utilitarianism" (1863)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
9. No. 59: Louis Wolowski and Émile Levasseur, "Property II" (1864)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
10. No. 71: Lysander Spooner, "Natural Law; or the Science of Justice" (1882)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
11. No. 4: Ludwig von Mises, "Liberty and Property" (1958)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source

Also see the collection of Quotations about Liberty and Power on the topic of: Natural Rights | Property Rights | Philosophy

## PART III: POLITICAL LIBERTY↩

1. No. 26: Lao Tzu, "The Tao of Governing" (6thC BC)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
2. No. 63: John Milton, "For the Liberty of Unlicensed Printing" (1664)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
3. No. 37: Montesquieu, "Of the Constitution of England" (1748)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
4. No. 35: James Madison, "The Utility of the Union As a Safeguard Against Domestic Faction and Insurrection" (1788)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
5. No. 50: Condorcet and Olympe de Gouges, "The Rights of Women" (1790–91)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
6. No. 73: Benjamin Constant, "On Freedom of Thought" (1815)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
7. No. 64: James Mill, "Liberty of the Press" (1825)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
8. No. 62: J. S. Mill, "On Representative Government" (1861)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source

Also see the collection of Quotations about Liberty and Power on the topics of : [Freedom of Speech](#) | [Law](#) | [Liberty](#) | [Religion & Toleration](#) | [Politics & Liberty](#) | [Revolution](#) | [Education](#)

## PART IV: ECONOMIC LIBERTY↩

1. Free Trade
  1. No. 7: Adam Smith, "On Free Trade" (1776)
    1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
  2. Best of Bastiat 3.1: Frédéric Bastiat, "The Petition of the Manufacturers of Candles" (October 1845)
    1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
  3. No. 30: Richard Cobden, "On the Total and Immediate Repeal of the Corn Laws" (January 1846)
    1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Source
  4. Ludwig von Mises on Tariffs and Protection
    1. Mises, "Free Trade" (1927) [Book Source]
    2. Mises, "The Ricardian Law of Association" (1949) [Book Source]
    3. Mises, "Restriction as a Privilege" (1949) [Book Source]
  5. No. 16: Leland Yeager, "The Positive Case for Free Trade" (1954)
    1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
2. No. 23: Abbé de Condillac, "On Value and Trade" (1776)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
3. No. 65: Destutt de Tracy, "Of Society" (1817)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
4. No. 20: Jean-Baptiste Say, "Of the Demand or Market for Products" (1819)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source

5. Best of Bastiat 3.2: Frédéric Bastiat, “The Broken Window” (July 1850)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
6. No. 12: F.A. Hayek, “The Use of Knowledge in Society” (1945)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
7. No. 17: Milton Friedman, “Capitalism and Freedom” (1961)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
8. No. 19: Israel Kirzner, “Entrepreneurial Activity and the General Market Process” (1963)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
9. No. 27: Israel Kirzner, “Efficiency, Coordination, and the Market Economy” (1963)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
10. No. 18: Friedrich Hayek, “Kinds of Order in Society” (1964)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
11. No. 28: Norman Barry, “Hayek’s Theory of Spontaneous Order I: Economic Orders” (1982)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
12. No. 29: Norman Barry, “Hayek’s Theory of Spontaneous Order II: Legal Orders” (1982)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
13. No. 14: Paul Heyne, “Economics Is a Way of Thinking” (1995)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source

Also see the collection of Quotations about Liberty and Power on the topics of: Colonies, Slavery & Abolition | Economics | Free Trade | Money & Banking

## PART V: INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY↩

1. No. 32: Richard Overton, “An Arrow against all Tyrants and Tyranny” (October, 1646)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
2. No. 39: Adam Smith, “Of the Character of Virtue” (1759)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
3. No. 47: Wilhelm von Humboldt, “Of the Individual Man” (1792)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
4. No. 33: Mary Wollstonecraft, “A Vindication of the Rights of Woman” (1792)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
5. No. 24: Lysander Spooner, “Vices are Not Crimes” (1875)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source

Also see the collection of Quotations about Liberty and Power on the topic of: Liberty | Women’s Rights

## PART VI: WAR & PEACE↩

1. No. 2: Vicesimus Knox, “The Prospect of Perpetual and Universal Peace” (1793)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
2. No. 38: Daniel Webster, “Speech on the Draft” (1814)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
3. No. 11: William Graham Sumner, “The Conquest of the United States by Spain” (1898)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
4. No. 3: Ludwig von Mises, “The Economics of War” (1949)

1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Source [to be added later]

Also see the collection of Quotations about Liberty and Power on the topic of: War & Peace

## PART VII: KEY LEGAL & POLITICAL DOCUMENTS↩

1. No. 41: "Magna Carta" (The Great Charter) (1215)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
2. No. 42: Sir Edward Coke, "Petition of Right" (1628)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
3. No. 72: "Three Agreements of the People" (1647-49)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Source [see the "HTML" version for links]
4. No. 43: "The Habeas Corpus Act" (1679)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
5. No. 44: "The English Bill of Rights" (1689)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
6. No. 45: [George Mason], "The Virginia Bill of Rights" (June, 1776)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Source [outside OLL]
7. No. 40: Thomas Jefferson, "The Declaration of Independence" (July, 1776)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
8. No. 49: "The Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen" (August, 1789)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Source [outside OLL]

Also see the collection of Key Documents of Liberty in which there are 100 documents stretching back to the Code of Hammurabi.

## PART VIII: THE HISTORY OF LIBERTY & POWER↩

1. No. 46: David Hume, "The Progress of English Liberty" (1761)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
2. No. 36: Lord Acton, "Inaugural Lecture on the Study of History" (1895)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source

Also see the collection of Quotations about Liberty and Power on the topics of: Origin of Government | The State

## PART IX: THE LITERATURE OF LIBERTY↩

1. No. 69: John Thelwall, "Political Songs" (1795)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
2. No. 51: Percy Bysshe Shelley, "On Liberty" (1810-22)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Source [see PDF version for details]

Also see the collection of Quotations about Liberty and Power on the topic of: Literature & Music

## PART X: THE CRITIQUE OF SOCIALISM AND INTERVENTIONISM↩

1. No. 66: Alexis de Tocqueville, "On Socialism" (1848)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
2. No. 67: John Stuart Mill "The Difficulties of Socialism" (1879)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
3. No. 68: Ludwig von Mises, "Economic Calculation under Socialism" (1922)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source

Also see the collection of Quotations about Liberty and Power on the topic of: **Socialism & Interventionism**

## PART XI: THE RULING CLASS AND THE STATE↩

1. No. 25: Estienne de la Boétie, "Discourse of Voluntary Servitude (1576)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
2. No. 61: John Trenchard, "On the Nature of Political Parties" (1721)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
3. No. 74: John Millar "Circumstances which tend to increase the power of the Sovereign" (1771)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
4. No. 34: James Mill, "The State of the Nation" (1835)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
5. No. 75: William Graham Sumner, "The Forgotten Man and Woman" (1883)
  1. HTML - Book Source

This section has been expanded. See "The Ruling Class and the State". Also see the collection of Quotations about Liberty and Power on the topics of: **Origin of Government | The State | Presidents, Kings, Tyrants, & Despots**

## PART XII: VISIONS OF THE FUTURE↩

1. No. 54: James Harrington, "The Commonwealth of Oceana" (1656)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
2. No. 70: David Hume, "Idea of a Perfect Commonwealth" (1777)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
3. No. 52: Marquis de Condorcet, "Tenth Epoch. Future Progress of Mankind" (1794)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
4. No. 57: John Stuart Mill, "The Spirit of the Age" (1831)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
5. Best of Bastiat 3.3: Frédéric Bastiat, "The Utopian" (1847)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
6. No. 53: Gustave de Molinari, "Of the Liberty of Government" (1849)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source
7. No. 55: Herbert Spencer, "Political Retrospect and Prospect" (1882)
  1. PDF - ePub - Kindle - HTML - Book Source

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